

“Stories of The Old State House” lecture series to be held in Dover, Del. from Oct. 14 through Nov. 11, 2015

(DOVER, Del.—Oct. 7, 2015)—Beginning on Oct. 14, 2015, and continuing on successive Wednesdays through Nov. 11, 2015, [The Old State House](#), located at 25 The Green in Dover, Del., will be offering “Stories of The Old State House,” a new five-part series of history lectures exploring the true stories of events that took place in Delaware’s historic capitol building. All lectures begin at 1 p.m. and are free and open to the public. However, due to space restrictions, reservations are recommended by calling 302-744-5054. A complete schedule of lectures follows.



Dennis Fisher will portray Dr. James Sykes on Oct. 14, 2015.

"Stories of The Old State House" lecture series

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2015

"The Doctor Is In: A Day With Dr. Sykes." Living-history theatrical performance by Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs historical interpreter Dennis Fisher portraying [Dr. James Sykes](#), an 18th to 19th-century Dover physician and statesman who served as Delaware's governor for a short period. As part of the program, Sykes will discuss his career and 18th century medicine.

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015

"Women's Words: The Civil War Told Through Delaware's Female Diarists." Living-history theatrical performance by Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs historical interpreters Susan Emory, Courtney Lynahan and Chris Hall which brings to life the diaries of Elizabeth Dorsey and Anna Ferris, two Delawareans with opposite sympathies during the American Civil War.

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2015

"Courage and Freedom." Program features three stories about the fight for freedom and equality that took place in The Old State House.

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2015

"The Trial of William White." Interactive living-history theatrical performance depicting the actual 1787 trial. Visitors will have an opportunity to decide if White is innocent or guilty of the charges.

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2015

"McLane and Washington." Living-history theatrical performance by Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs historical interpreter Tom Welch exploring the relationship between Gen. George Washington and Col. Allen McLane, the Revolutionary War hero from Duck Creek (Smyrna, Del.).



Tom Welch will portray
Col. Allen McLane on
Nov. 11, 2015.

Completed in 1791, The Old State House is one of the oldest capitol buildings in the United States, serving as the home of Delaware's legislature until 1933 when the General Assembly moved to larger quarters in Legislative Hall. The venerable structure now appears as it would have in the late 1700s during the United States' critical early years as a nation. It features a courtroom, governor's and county offices and chambers for the state's Senate and House of Representatives. The building is situated on Dover's historic Green, a public area designated by William Penn in 1683 which is now a component of the [First State National Monument](#). The Old State House is open for visitation and tours from Monday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. For additional information, call 302-744-5054.



House of Representatives chamber in
The Old State House. Photo by Don
Pearse Photographers.

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